3. *V-SAT Based Services.*

The licence fee has been revised to Rs. 1 crore per year for the first two years and Rs. 1.5 crores for the third year. Licence fee will be reviewed thereafter.

Faulty Telephone Exchange in Ferozepur

2023. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whther it is a fact that Ferozepur, a Divisional Headquarter in Punjab and situated just on the Indo-Pak border, is having the most unsatisfactory and faulty telephone exchange in Punjab: and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to put this exchange in better working condition, when technical know-how has advanced tremendously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The services in Ferozepur are not very satisfactory due to life expired MAX-II type exchange and connectivity to Bhatinda Penta-Conta Trunk Automatic Exchange (PC TAX).

(b) To improve the telephone services, following steps are being taken.—

(i) Life expired 2000 lines MAX-II type exchange at Ferozepur is going to be replaced by installation of 3500 lines Main and 1000 lines expansion Crossbar exchange. The installation work is in progress.

(ii) In addition, 1400 lines C-DOT electronic exchange is proposed to be commissioned during 93-94

(iii) To improve subscribers trunk dialling service, Ferozepur, is being connected to Ludhiana Digital trunk automatic exchange instead of Penta-Conta Crossbar Trunk Automatic exchange at Bhatinda.

(iv) Subscribers dialling to other cities in Ferozepur Division at present is being provided by Penta Conta Crossbar trunk automatic exchange Bhatinda which will be replaced by digital trunk automatic exchange.

Deterioration of telephone services in the capital

2024. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been severe deterioration in the telephone services in the capital in the last couple of months: if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) what is the number of complaints recorded by different telephone exchange in the capital during Deecmber, 1993 and January, 1994 with similar details of the corresponding period of 1992-93:

(c) whether it is also a fact that the telephone exchanges mainly attend to the complaints for restoration of telephones and complaints requiring repair/ replacement of equipment and on-line disturbances are not at all attended to despite repeated requests: and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir, there is no marked deterioration in telephone services in the last couple of months in Delhi.

(b) The information is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) No Sir, while it is correct that priority is given to dead telephones, there is systematic attention to the noisy lines or any other type of fault reported.

(d) Question does not arise.